

Remarks

Claims 1-29 are currently pending. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 19, 22, 24, and 27 have been amended. Applicants assert that the claims are in condition for allowance as set forth more fully below.

Objections

The specification and claims 5, 7, 14, 17, 19, 24, and 27 have been objected to due to the use of “wirecenters.” Applicants would like to point out that “wirecenters” is a term of art that is used interchangeably with “wire centers” and further points out that even if such a term was not already a term of art, it is permissible for Applicants to be their own lexicographers. However, to maintain consistency within the specification and to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the specification and claims 5, 7, 14, 17, 19, 24, and 27 where necessary to change “wirecenters” to “wire centers.” Accordingly, these objections to the specification and claims 5, 7, 14, 17, 19, 24, and 27 may be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4, 10, 13, and 17 are objected to because they are written in an outline format including (a), (b), etc. Applicants are unaware of a rule prohibiting the inclusion of such headers for each of the elements of the claim and maintain that including such headers does not mean that the claim is not written in a sentence form. However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended these claims to remove such headers such that these objections may be withdrawn.

Claim 22 has been objected to for lack of a period after the final word. The period has been added and the objection may be withdrawn.

112 Rejections

Claim 17 is rejected for lack of antecedent basis for “that apparatus.” This language has been removed and replaced by alternative language that does have proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

103 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 6, 17-19, and 22 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanschagrin (US Pat 6,295,540) in view of Farris (US Pat 5,881,131).

Claims 4, 5 and 10-13 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sanschagrin in view of Farris and further in view of Grau (US Pat 5,910,803). Claims 7, 14-16, 20, 21, 25, and 28 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sanschagrin in view of Farris in view of Grau and further in view of Austin (US Pat 5,500,934). Claims 8, 9, and 23 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sanschagrin in view of Farris and further in view of Austin. Claims 24, 26, 27 and 29 are rejected as being unpatentable over Sanschagrin in view of Grau and further in view of Austin. To the extent these rejections still apply to the currently pending claims, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The claims have been amended to include recitations about the graphical user interface that displays the telephone network information. For example, claim 1 includes recitations to method of managing telephone network facilities, comprising ... displaying at least a portion of the data in the second tables via a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface providing a prompt for a district wherein multiple wire centers exist for each district, and in response to receiving a district, listing the available wire centers for the district, and upon receiving a selection of the available wire centers, accessing the information from the relational database based on the wire centers selected to thereby display for each selected location of the wire center that is selected the individual pieces of equipment, the T1 circuits available, the T1 circuits working, the total T1 circuits, the ADSL circuits available, the ADSL circuits working, and the total ADSL circuits, with the information of each location being displayed in a separate window, and with the windows of the locations being cascaded. Independent claims 10, 17, and 24 include similar recitations.

The cited references fail to disclose these recitations. In particular, the cited references fail to disclose singly or in combination the notion of having one window per location of a wire center, with each window for the location showing the equipment of the location, the slots of the equipment, and the use of the slots including the ADSL circuit and T1 circuit information. Furthermore, the references fail to disclose singly or in combination that such windows for corresponding to locations of a wire center are cascaded. Accordingly, claims 1-29 are allowable over the cited combination for at least

these reasons. Dependent claims 2-9, 11-16, 18-23, and 25-29 depend from an allowable base claim and are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Furthermore, claim 1 includes additional recitations not disclosed by the cited combination of references. Claim 1 includes additional recitations to extracting from LEIS information from a plurality of first tables, the information being in the form of individual records with each record including a field that includes a wire center identifier, the records specifying slots per piece of equipment, equipment per location, locations per wire center; formatting the extracted information into a pipe-delimited flat file, compressing the flat file, tarring the flat file, and porting the compressed and tarred information of the flat file to a second computer by a file transfer protocol. Claim 1 includes additional recitations to loading, from the second computer, the information of the compressed and tarred flat file into a relational database by untarring and uncompressing the flat file and storing the information from the table such that the information of the relational database is organized according to the wire center identifier of each of the records; manipulating the relational database to populate a plurality of second tables with data representative of telephone network facilities where such second tables are organized by wire center.

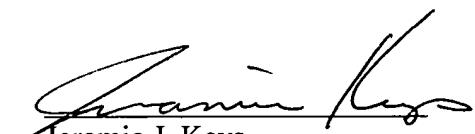
The cited references fail to disclose such a combination of elements, namely the individual records that includes a wire center identifier where the information of the records is formatted into a pipe-delimited flat file, is compressed, is tarred, is then untarred, and uncompresssed. Additionally, the cited combination fails to disclose that the information of the flat file is added to the relational database in accordance with the wire center identifier and populating second tables that are organized by wire center. It is significant that the organization remain in organized by wire center as the records are placed into the flat file, compressed, tarred, transferred, untarred, umcompresssed, placed into the relational database, then into the second tables so that the graphical user interface maintains the ability to access the data on the basis of a desired wire center so that the locations, equipment per location, and slots per equipment can be displayed on the basis of selection of wire centers of a district. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the cited combination for at least these additional reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-29 is in condition for allowance. Applicants request that the application be reconsidered in view of the amendments and remarks above and that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,



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